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# WEATHER & CROPS



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**Week of: June 19 - 25, 2006**

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## **CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING JUNE 25, 2006**

Rains toward the end of the week brought much needed relief to dry conditions throughout the Commonwealth. Days suitable for field work were 5.5. Average precipitation remained below normal at 1.52 inches. The average temperature was an above-normal 77 degrees. Sporadic rainfall across the state was beneficial to crop growth, but not quite enough to replenish soil moisture levels in all areas. Pasture conditions continue to deteriorate. Many livestock producers are feeding hay and supplemental feed. First cutting hay yields were said to be extremely low. The corn crop in most areas benefited from the rains this week, but in some areas is still showing signs of stress from the earlier dry conditions. Early sweet corn is in full tassel, and other vegetable crops are doing well. Winter wheat yields were reported to be high with good grain quality. Reporters say most of the tobacco crop looks good, considering the lack of moisture. Tobacco producers began irrigation this week. Other farm activities included harvesting barley, scouting fields, and applying herbicides to soybean fields.

### **TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT**

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
May 28, 2006	8	30	61	1
June 4, 2006	9	40	51	0
June 11, 2006	14	45	41	0
June 18, 2006	17	35	46	2
June 25, 2006	9	25	56	10

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**WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 25, 2006**

WEATHER STATION	TEMPERATURE (degrees Fahrenheit)				PRECIPITATION (inches)		
	HI	LO	Average	Departure from	TOTAL	Departure from	Days
<b>NORTHERN</b>							
Woodstock	93	57	74	2	1.26	0.49	2
Warrenton	94	60	77	5	1.67	0.83	5
Winchester 7 SE	96	56	76	5	0.14	-0.77	3
Dale Enterprises	96	59	73	3	1.26	0.56	2
<b>WESTERN</b>							
Glasgow	97	57	76	4	1.57	0.84	3
Roanoke AP	97	65	78	6	0.32	-0.39	3
Waynesboro	95	56	74	5	3.95	3.32	3
Staunton AG	95	56	75	5	2.58	1.95	4
<b>CENTRAL</b>							
Charlottesville	96	58	78	5	3.93	3.09	3
Piedmont Res ST	96	63	78	5	1.1	0.33	2
Bremo Bluff	99	55	78	5	0.33	-0.47	2
Richmond AP	96	68	81	7	1.4	0.54	3
<b>EASTERN</b>							
Eastville	93	71	80	6	1.41	0.65	1
Wallops Island	88	68	78	3	3.04	2.41	2
Williamsburg	94	66	80	5	1.03	0.1	3
Keysville	100	63	80	8	0.31	-0.53	3
<b>SOUTHWESTERN</b>							
Blacksburg AG	90	57	72	4	2.77	2	2
Wytheville	89	53	70	3	0.36	-0.34	3
Saltville	91	58	73	4	0.76	-0.15	3
Richlands	89	58	71	8	1.8	0.89	5
<b>SOUTHERN</b>							
Stuart	96	59	76	5	1.41	0.42	3
Danville AG	97	63	79	4	2.2	1.36	3
Chatham	95	59	75	4	0.37	-0.43	2
Martinsville	94	57	75	3	0.79	-0.12	3
<b>SOUTHEASTERN</b>							
Norfolk VA	93	69	80	5	1.69	0.77	3
Oceana	92	68	80	5	0.19	-0.65	2
Emporia	92	64	78	6	2.96	2.05	3
Newport News	94	65	81	6	1.93	1.01	2

Departure from normal based on 1961-90 normals.

Precipitation Days=Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

**WEATHER & CROPS****Week Of June 19 – 25, 2006**

<b>CROP CONDITION PERCENT</b>					
<b>Crop</b>	<b>Very Poor</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
Pastures	10	22	33	31	4
Livestock	3	6	24	56	11
Other Hay	15	30	33	18	4
Alfalfa Hay	7	22	35	31	5
Corn	1	8	29	47	15
Soybeans	0	3	28	57	12
Winter Wheat	1	8	26	46	19
Barley	1	8	30	51	10
Flue-cured Tobacco	6	13	29	49	3
Burley Tobacco	0	0	9	69	22
Dark Fire-cured Tobacco	5	23	45	27	0
Peanuts	0	0	18	82	0
Cotton	0	12	22	61	5
All Apples	0	1	31	65	3
Peaches	0	7	40	52	1
Grapes	0	1	11	86	2

<b>CROP PROGRESS PERCENT-WITH COMPARISONS</b>				
<b>Crop</b>	<b>This Week</b>	<b>Last Week</b>	<b>Last Year</b>	<b>5 Year Avg.</b>
Corn Silked	13	3	5	9
Soybeans Planted	72	62	74	72
Soybeans Emerged	59	50	65	62
Winter Wheat Harvested	44	11	38	39
Barley Harvested	87	41	78	78
Peanuts Pegged	10	0	11	11
Cotton Squaring	35	15	15	37
Summer Potatoes Harvested	5	0	2	6

**REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY**

Comments are based on comments reported by Extension Agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

**CLARKE COUNTY (Jacob Stegner):**

Pasture conditions are deteriorating. Producers are beginning to feed hay. Crops appear fine for now. Hay crop was 1/2 to 2/3 of normal. The second cutting grass hay is questionable.

**LOUDOUN COUNTY (Corey Childs):**

Sporadic rainfall and a few thunderstorms have not changed the overall level of available moisture in the soil.

**PAGE COUNTY (William Whittle):**

Page Co received varying amounts of rainfall over the past four days ranging from 1.2 to 2.5 inches. Substantial rains did not occur until late Sunday afternoon and Sunday night. Pasture and hay have been heavily affected by lack of moisture up until this time. Livestock producers were starting to feed hay to reduce pasture stress. Early planted corn was doing amazingly well but suffered in the 90+ degree heat last week. Late planted corn was in trouble.

**REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY, *cont.***

**CAROLINE COUNTY (McGann Saphir):**

Barley harvest is generally complete. Yields and test weights were very good. Wheat harvest is under way. Early reports say yields are good, despite a dry winter. More timely rains have improved all crops. Most of the area has received 2-4 inches of rain in the past couple of weeks. Many farmers are replanting areas of soybean fields that had poor germination due to the dry weather at planting. Much of the corn crop is tasseling and silking just in time for the general rains we have experienced this week.

**ACCOMACK COUNTY (James N. Belote):**

We have seen very good wheat yields. Many fields are yielding from 70 to 105 bushels per acre. Yield is surprising. Rain is needed to replenish subsoil. Fall tomatoes are off to a good start. Soybeans are being planted as soon as wheat is harvested. A lot of soybeans will be sprayed with Roundup next week.

**ESSEX COUNTY (Keith Balderson):**

Rains were beneficial to the corn crop, but amounts have been quite variable--just under a half inch to a couple inches. Wheat yields have been good as well as grain quality. However, the extended period of high humidity, clouds, and intermittent rains will delay harvest and probably effect quality. There are now concerns about decreased test weights and possible sprouting.

**KING GEORGE COUNTY (Regina Prunty):**

Weekend rains brought relief to dry conditions. Beans are coming up.

**WASHINGTON COUNTY (Phil Blevins):**

We have been dry and hot this week. However parts of the county received rain late in the week.

**HALIFAX COUNTY (Traci Talley):**

The majority of the county received much needed rains from thunderstorms last night. This was the first rain the county has seen in quite a while. Most of the tobacco crop looks fairly well considering no rain. Many producers had begun irrigation of tobacco. Harvest of winter wheat has begun. Hay crops have been harvested and most were one third to one half short. Many beef producers are feeding hay supplies now, some are supplementing with grain, and yet others are weaning calves early to remove pressure from the brood cows and the lack of forages.

**HENRY COUNTY (Melanie Barrow):**

Very heavy rains fell this weekend, with more than 4 inches in some places. Those with a late first cut or early second cut for hay lost what was on the ground. Creeks came over the banks, etc.

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY (Cynthia L. Gregg):**

Many cattle headed to the stockyard on Wednesday. There is a fear that pasture and hay will be very short in the area this year. It was very hot on Thursday and many animals were showing stress signs. Storms on Friday helped a little but the humidity was still high. Crops are germinating spotty.